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## Everglades National Park News Release

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For Immediate Release  
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### **Everglades National Park General Management Plan (GMP) - Availability of latest project newsletter**

The 2<sup>nd</sup> newsletter for the Everglades National Park General Management Plan (GMP) project has just been released and made available. The document provides an overview of project accomplishments to date including a summary of the major issues and ideas expressed by the public. The newsletter outlines the most critical laws and policies that the plan will be shaped around, and includes a project schedule that highlights key project phases and the associated public involvement opportunities for each phase.

The GMP establishes the goals for the 1.5 million-acre park over a twenty-year period. Its development is guided by public involvement at each step along the way. The GMP describes a framework for decision making regarding long-range park management, natural and cultural resource protection, preservation of wilderness values, appropriate types and levels of visitor activities, and the extent of facility development desired.

More than 1800 different ideas were provided by mail, e-mail, or directly to park staff in a series of public, agency and stakeholder meetings held earlier this year. The topics most widely discussed included: boating and water-based recreation, access to park resources, ecosystem restoration, park facilities, partnership opportunities, and interpretation and education programs. The newsletter provides a comprehensive sampling of the wide range of ideas expressed on these topic areas.

For more information or to be added to the project mail or e-mail list please contact: Everglades National Park, 40001 State Road 9336, Homestead, FL 33034, attn: Fred Herling or [ever\\_gmp@nps.gov](mailto:ever_gmp@nps.gov). You can read the newsletter and keep current on the project by visiting the Everglades National Park website: [www.nps.gov/ever](http://www.nps.gov/ever) and clicking on the General Management Plan link.

*The National Park Service cares for special places saved by the American people so that all may experience our heritage. EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA*